

Applicant : Douglas R. Becker
Serial No. : 09/672,236
Filed : September 27, 2000
Page : 8 of 9

Attorney's Docket No.: 07844-451001 / P415

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 were pending in the application. Claims 1-23 and 25 were objected to. Claims 24 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,031,544 to Yhann in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,760,779 to Yamashita.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-23 and 25 were merely objected to on account of informalities. Claims 1-2, 14-23 and 25 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. In addition, claims 24 and 26 have been amended. The amendments are supported in the specification in the first paragraph on page 1, the last paragraph on page 3, the first full paragraph on page 8, and the first three full paragraphs on page 10. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested in view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

In rejecting claim 24, the Examiner acknowledges that Yhann does not disclose forming a trap polygon for a color transition edge such that when a trap polygon corresponding to an interfering edge is subsequently formed, the trap polygon associated with the color transition edge does not have to be reshaped. Accordingly, Yhann does not teach or suggest "sequentially forming trap polygons for color transition edges in a sequence of color transition edges in a digital document, each trap polygon in sequence having its final form before any subsequent polygon is formed, wherein the trap polygons are non-overlapping," as recited in claim 24.

Further as to claim 24, the Examiner combines Yhann with Yamashita and states that Yamashita discloses using triangles to divide quadrilaterals such that the quadrilaterals and the triangles are not reshaped (FIG. 3, column 5, line 65 to column 6, line 3). However, the triangles and quadrilaterals in Yamashita are overlapping polygons (FIG. 3, FIG. 6, FIGS. 8-10). Accordingly, Yamashita does not cure the deficiencies of Yhann in that nothing in Yamashita teaches or suggests "sequentially forming trap polygons for color transition edges in a sequence of color transition edges in a digital document, each trap polygon in sequence having its final form before any subsequent polygon is formed, wherein the trap polygons are non-overlapping," as recited in claim 24. For at least these reasons claim 24 is allowable.

Applicant : Douglas R. Becker
Serial No. : 09/672,236
Filed : September 27, 2000
Page : 9 of 9

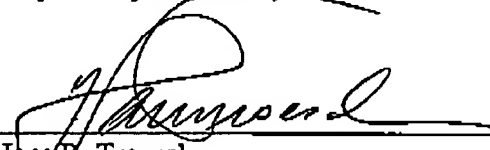
Attorney's Docket No.: 07844-451001 / P415

Claim 26, as amended, recites limitations corresponding to those of claim 24 and is therefore allowable for at least the reasons set forth above in reference to claim 24.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 30 Dec 04


Hans R. Troesch
Reg. No. 36,950

Fish & Richardson P.C.
500 Arguello Street, Suite 500
Redwood City, California 94063
Telephone: (650) 839-5070
Facsimile: (650) 839-5071

50249039.doc